

October 27, 2022

At the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen/women of the Town of Canton held at the Town Hall at 85 Summer Street, October 27, 2022, at 6:30pm with Mayor Smathers, Aldermen/women Mull, Hamlett, Proctor, and Shepard present, the following proceedings were held.

A. Call to Order

Mayor Smathers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Mayor Smathers stated that the Manager, Assistant Manager/Clerk, and Town Attorney were present

C. Pledge

Alderwoman Mull led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Approval of Minutes: October 10th and 13th, 2022

Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the October 10th and October 13th, 2022, minutes as presented. Alderman Hamlett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E. Mayor Comments

Mayor Smathers commented that the Halloween downtown Trick or Treat event was going to be a great event and he thanked staff and business owner Jeanne Forest for all their efforts.

Mayor Smathers inquired if the Manager could contact NCDOT regarding the second entrance to Pisgah High School off Highway 110 for safety measures (flashing signal etc.)

Mayor Smathers also added that it would be a good idea to see what could be done to add sidewalks from substation to Black Bear Café area to accommodate pedestrian safety in that area as well.

Mayor Smathers asked if a work session could be scheduled to talk over some of the flood restoration projects of the larger facilities.

Mayor Smathers reminded everyone that a texting scam regarding Town of Canton Police Department apparel was circulating around and to not click on it.

F. Aldermen/women Comments

Alderwoman Mull stated that speeding was an issue at Southern Porch and was eager to see the traffic calming measures installed. Alderwoman Mull thanked staff for all they do. Alderwoman Mull commented that the dogwood trees on Pisgah Drive looked great.

Alderman Hamlett asked for an update regarding the All-Abilities Playground. Alderman Hamlett thanked Assistant Manager Stinnett for everything that she did behind the scenes to make the Town run smooth. Alderman Hamlett interjected that he felt strongly about the Christmas Tree Lighting be low key and short because he did not want that event to pull away from the Christmas Parade which was the main event. All other members agreed that the event should be short as they did not want it competing with the parade.

Alderwoman Proctor thanked Recreation Director Ben Williams and staff for having all the recreational facilities in top shape. Alderwoman Proctor stated that it was great to see all the families and people utilizing the facilities and being a part of the community.

Alderman Shepard thanked staff and reminded everyone to be careful and to watch for all the kids on Halloween. Alderman Shepard thanked the Police Department for working the Halloween events to ensure the safety of attendees.

G. Public Comments

N/A

H. Reports from the Manager

Manager Scheuer commented that the Finance Officer, Natalie Walker had COVID and to keep her in their prayers.

Manager Scheuer reported that Jeanne Forrest with the Downtown Merchant Partnership had organized a great event for trick or treaters downtown from 5pm to 7pm followed by a movie in Sorrells Park.

Manager Scheuer reported to the Board that the resurfacing of the tennis courts was going to begin in about two weeks once the wiring for the lighting and new lights were installed. This will then be striped for pickle ball along with basketball goals.

Manager Scheuer reported to the Board that to date around \$300,000 dollars had been raised to go toward the building of

the All-Abilities Playground from Kiwanis, donations from Ken and Debbie Wilson, and the Town budgeted amount. Manager Scheuer stated that he was still seeking grant funding to help finish the project with all the bells and whistles for ALL kids in the community and for visitors alike.

Manager Scheuer asked if the Board had a Grand Marshal in mind for the Christmas parade? Alderwoman Mull made a motion to pick Lynn Collins and the TDA staff being all the hard work over the years and all they do to help promote the Town of Canton. Alderman Hamlett seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous.

Manager Scheuer asked the Board if they wished to change the meeting date for the next meeting so they would be able to attend the K.A.R.E. Festival of Trees event? Alderwoman Mull made a motion to cancel the November 10th meeting for the Mayor and Board of Aldermen and set a Special Called meeting on November 17, 2022, at 6:30pm. Alderman Hamlett seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Mayor Smathers also commented that the ballfield at the Recreation Park was awesome and thanked Ben Williams for all his hard work.

I. New Business

1. Adoption of the Haywood County Recreation Plan

Manager Scheuer asked the Board's pleasure on adopting the Haywood County Recreation Plan that was recently updated. Alderman Shepard made a motion to adopt the updated Haywood County Recreation Plan. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Accessibilities for Parks Grant Authorization

Manager Scheuer asked for the Boards permission to apply for the Accessibilities for Parks grant on behalf of the Town. Alderwoman Mull made the motion to approve the authorization for the Parks and Grant. Alderman Hamlett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

J. Closed Session: Pursuant to N.C.G.S 143-318.11 (a)(6)

Alderwoman Mull made a motion to enter closed session pursuant to (a)(6) personnel. Alderwoman Proctor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

After a lengthy discussion with no action taken, Alderwoman Proctor made a motion to enter open session at 7:37pm. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. Motion carried.

K. Adjournment

The next meeting will be on Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall located at 85 Summer Street, Canton, NC 28716. There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk